

Remarks

It is respectfully requested that claims 1, 3, 6-9, and 16 - 23 be reconsidered for allowance in view of this Amendment and these Remarks. Claims 2, 4, 5, 10 - 15 are cancelled herein.

Page 8 and the "Assignment" thereon is deleted.

Claims 5 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Accordingly, claims 5 and 15 have been cancelled and new claim 20 has been added to more accurately define the present invention. New claim 20 is a method claim which includes the subject matter of original claims 1 and 5, and is therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 1, 3, 5 - 12 and 15 - 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Wein ('603 in view of Escaravage ('287). Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of original claim 2, which was merely objected to. Thus, amended claim 1 more accurately defines the present invention and is believed to be allowable.

Claims 3 and 6 - 9 should be allowed because they depend directly from allowable amended claim 1.

New claim 21 is essentially original claim 4 in independent form. Claim 4 was merely objected to, and thus new claim 21 is believed to be allowable.

New claim 22 is essentially original claim 13 in independent form. Claim 13 was merely objected to, and thus new claim 22 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 16 -19 should be allowed because they have been amended to depend directly from allowable new claim 22.

New claim 23 is essentially original claim 14 in independent form. Claim 14 was merely objected to, and thus new claim 23 is believed to be allowable.

In conclusion, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Any fees or charges due as a result of filing of the present paper may be charged against Deposit Account 04-0525. Two duplicates of this page are enclosed.

Respectfully,



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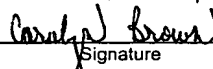
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